



U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION

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ARTICLE ROUND UP

APRIL 2011

EDUCATION

1. **"Actually Going to Class, for a Specific Course? How 20th-Century"**
Jeffrey R. Young. **The Chronicle of Higher Education**, March 4, 2011.

The author examines how learning technologies which allow students to have access to information from any location are having an impact on the traditional structure of the college course. He also discusses why traditional lecture-based instruction is the wrong approach to engage students.

2. **"Going beyond the textbook: The need to integrate open access primary literature into the Chemistry"**
Harry E. Pence and Barbara Losoff, **Chemistry Central Journal**, April 6, 2011, P. 18

Unrestricted, open access to scholarly scientific literature provides an opportunity for chemistry educators to go beyond the textbook, introducing students to the real work of scientists. Despite the best efforts of textbook authors to provide information about recent research results, textbooks are not a substitute for learning to use the primary literature.

3. **"Wanted: Ways To Measure Most Teachers"**
Stephen Sawchuk. **Education Week**, February 2, 2011, 6 pages.

In light of a debate about the use of value-added measures in U.S. education, the author, an assistant editor for *Education Week*, discusses an initiative to devise a system that measures the effectiveness of teachers of subjects including art, career education, and history.

4. **"Information Technology and Tomorrow's University"**
Jolene Koester. **Educause Review**, January/February 2011, 6 pages

The author, President of the California State University system, explores the importance of integrating information technology with higher education, and how it can improve the system of higher education.

5. **"Literature in EFL/ESL Classroom"**
Khatib, Mohammad. **English Language Teaching**, March 2011, pages 201-208.

This paper is a review of literature on how literature can be integrated as a language teaching material in EFL/ESL classes. Five methodological models for teaching literature are proposed.

6. **"Will Technology Kill the Academic Calendar?"**

Parry, Marc. **Education Digest**, Feb. 2011, Vol. 76, Issue 6, p4-7, 4 pages

The article profiles the self-paced Learn Anytime distance education program at Kentucky's Jefferson Community & Technical College. It explores the differences between self-paced online courses and the traditional academic semester system and also examines the educational benefits of individualized instruction.

7. **"Languishing Languages"**

Block, Ben. **Worldwatch**, Vol. 23, No. 4, July/August 2010, pp. 24-28.

Almost half of the world's 6700 languages could become extinct by the end of this century, according to one estimate made by the United Nations. If those languages die, a unique view of the world will expire with them.

8. **"In Search of the Perfect Sentence"**

Janet Tarasovic. **Writer**, March 2011, 8 pages.

The author, a longtime high school teacher, examines the construction of sentences in literature, focusing on the importance of word choices. Examples from passages written by sports writer Mike Sager and children's book author Cat Weatherill are examined to illustrate her points.

9. **"Changing Approaches – Changing perspective"**

Travis Park, Donna Pearson and Jennifer Sayer, **Techniques**, April 2011, P20

Over the past seven years, research teams from the National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE) have been at work testing curriculum integration models. Each of three studies--Math-in-CTE, Authentic Literacy-in-CTE, and Science-in-CTE--has focused on the development of pedagogic frameworks and delivery of professional development. An unintended but powerful outcome of this research has been a growing respect between the career and technical education (CTE) and academic worlds and changing perspectives about CTE and its contribution to student academic achievement.

10. **"Are Undergraduates actually learning anything?"**

Arum, Richard; Roksa, Jispa, **Chronicle of Higher Education**, January 28, 2011, Vol. 57, Issue 21, PA0-A31

The authors comment on the quality of higher education in the U.S. and the skills that undergraduates are learning, which is the subject of a book that they co-wrote called "Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses." The aims and objectives of higher education are explored as are the results of the authors' research, which found that many college graduates have poor critical thinking and writing skills. The status of U.S. universities and colleges internationally is considered as is the nation's role as an economic power.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

11. "Learning to Love the (Shallow, Divisive, Unreliable) New Media"

James Fallows. *The Atlantic*, April 2011, 10 pages.

The author, a national correspondent for The Atlantic, discusses the role of online social media in 21st century journalism, arguing that the use of new media as a news source is evidence of changes in journalism and the news business in the U.S.

12. "Navigating the Future"

Larry Kramer. *American Journalism Review*, Winter 2010, 6 pages.

The author, a former editor of the San Francisco Examiner, discusses upheavals in the U.S. journalism industry brought about by the Internet and digital technology, and how news organizations might find profitable business models in the future.

13. "Social Media is nothing new to those who listen"

Ilana Fox, *New Media Age Online*, Dec. 8, 2010, 520 words.

Social media doesn't change everything. It's what you've been doing for years. Social media is about this listening. We're no longer operating in a world where a person writes a letter of complaint and it's dealt with behind closed doors. The web ensures these gripes affect companies' reputations. Those that manage these situations well understand their social media response will play a part in how they're perceived. These are the companies that hire people to work out how best to respond and grow their business as a result of their customers' feedback.

14. "Developing Women" – Why Technology can help"

Goyal, Ashima, *Information Technology for Development*; 2011, Vol. 17 Issue 2, p112-132.

The paper introduces a concept of household production technology that shows why Internet and communication technology (ICT) have the potential to increase the equity and efficiency of female participation in the labor force. Since inputs of female labor are required at short intervals in the production of the household good, female labor supply and earnings in the production of external goods fall below those of males. Household consumption at a point in time is maximized, but loss of potential learning-by-doing leads to dynamic inefficiencies, which power relations, bargaining, perceptions and self-perceived limitations reinforce. ICT helps restore flexibility in female external labor supply since it facilitates distance work, flexi-time and location activity, making it easier to match skills to jobs and to maintain and upgrade skills. But social structures and perceptions require intervention to become supportive. ICT has the potential to contribute to overall development for poorer women in less-developed regions of the world with appropriate policy.

15. "Learning now: five digital strategies to bring learning into 2011"

Susan Varnadoe and Noah Rabinowitz, *T+D 65.4*, April 2011, P108

Are some of your ongoing learning efforts still living in 2001? If you think social media or simulations are too lofty or not practical enough, it might be time to think again. See what other companies are doing right now.

Virtual learning environments. Learners create media and other elements to share. Publish the really good ones for future use.

Learning is back, and the volume of development is increasing. Yet, as those of us who have been in the field a while know, maintaining that volume and still meeting the quality demand of today's learners is a big challenge.

16. **"Beware Social Media's Surprising Dark Side, Scholars Warn CEO's; Technology festival features academic gadflies".**
Jeffrey R. Young, **The Chronicle of Higher Education** 57.29, March 20, 2011.

Austin, Texas, Jonathan Zittrain, co-founder of Harvard University's Berkman Center for Internet & Society, was out to cause "anxiety and concern" among his audience. His argument: Internet companies that focus on "crowdsourcing," getting the public to do odd jobs for small or no fees, are morally questionable ventures.

17. **"Benefits and Risks of Social Media Use in Children and Adolescents"**
Howard Bauchner, **Journal Watch Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine**, April 20, 2011.

Many children younger than the minimum age of 13 years participate in social media activity. Much preadolescent and adolescent social interaction occurs on cell phones or on social networking sites including Facebook, Twitter, and MySpace. An estimated 75% of teens own cell phones, 54% use their phones for texting, and about 25% log on to **social media** sites more than 10 times per day. The American Academy of Pediatrics released a clinical report on the benefits and risks of **social media**.

LIBRARY TRENDS

18. **"Digital Tidbits"**
Maha Kumaran and Joe Geary. **Computers in Libraries**, January 2011, 7 pages.

The authors offer tips to librarians on the use of various digital resources, focusing on free technology that they can use on a daily basis either to organize their lives or to help quickly answer questions from their users.

19. **"The Next Generation of Discovery"**
Judy Luther and Maureen C. Kelly. **Library Journal**, March 15, 2011, 6 pages.

The authors discuss some "discovery" tools that enable researchers and other library patrons to search all databases a library subscribes to with a single query. They explain features that librarians should consider when selecting such a tool.

20. **The shelf life of libraries: the digital revolution may appear to undermine the role of the library, but Benny Goodman has other ideas**
Benny Goodman, **Nursing Standard** 25.20, Jan 19, 2011.

When was the last time you set foot in a library? What do you do there and how does it support your learning? Research from the University of Huddersfield suggests that there is a correlation between library use and grade attainment.

ECONOMICS & TRADE

21. "Are Small Business the Biggest Producers of Jobs?"

Kliesen, Kevin L. ad Maues, Julia S., **The Regional Economist**, April 2011

It is often claimed that small firms are responsible for a disproportionately large share of new jobs that are created in the U.S. economy. If true, this speaks well of the entrepreneurial spirit of the U.S. economy, whereby newcomers introduce new ideas or production processes that lead to new and improved products or services.

22. "Strategies For Learning From Failure"

Amy Edmondson, **Harvard Business Review**, April 2011, Vol. 89, Issue 4, 8 pages.

The article discusses strategies for learning from failure from a business and organizational perspective. The mistaken belief that failure is always bad is mentioned. Reasons for failure such as deviance in practice, inattention, lack of ability, process inadequacy, task difficulty, process complexity, uncertainty, and hypothesis and exploratory testing are discussed. Advice is given for building a learning culture and psychologically safe environment that counteracts an organization's focus on blame. Analyzing failure and promoting experimentation are also discussed. INSETS: A Spectrum of Reasons for Failure;How Leaders Can Build a Phychologically Safe Environment;Designing Successful Failures.

23. "The Role of Proprietary Trading Education within Day Trading Stocks"

Saminiranechonmann, **Article Ant**, April 26, 2011

To be successful in proprietary daytrading, you might want a fantastic foundation of the basics. Once you understand the nature of intraday trading as well as the secrets of the pros, it will eventually open up an encouraging career for you. Among all the types of careers, prop trading proves to be probably the most tough. It is because the market is consistently changing and in case you do not have direct access to active useful information, you could be to the losing end.

24. "Finding out the Best Proprietary Trading Firms"

Valeriecrocker, **Article Ant**, April 2, 2011

Due to the very high success rate of the trading market, a lot of people are switching to a trading job. Whether they are single traders or a part of proprietary trading firms, they just have one particular goal- to make big. All are goaled to flourish in this market. But for the reason that the trading industry promises a very huge amount of earning, it is also unavoidable that starting out with it is quite costly.

25. "The Copyright Dilemma: Copyright Systems, Innovation and Economic Development"

Part, Walter G., **Journal of International Affairs**, Fall 2010, Vol. 64, Issue 1, page 53, 17 pages.

This paper discusses the potential role of copyright laws in technological and economic development. Although it is more common to think of the patent system as a source of economic and technological development, copyright laws and regulations affect cultural industries such as art, films, music and literature.